GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

Public Services Commission

IN RE:	PSC DOCKET NO. 572
V.I. SeaTrans Ferry Franchise)	1000001110101010
Rate Investigation and Promulgation of)	
Rules and Regulations Pursuant to)	ORDER NUMBER: 08/2008
Act No. 6918	

ORDER

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2007, the Virgin Islands Public Services Commission ("PSC" or "Commission") met in regular session at the PSC Offices in Barbel Plaza, St. Thomas;

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2007, the Legislature of the Virgin Islands enacted Act. Number 6918 (Hereinafter "the Act"), granting an exclusive franchise to Aquatic Management, LLC d/b/a V.I. SeaTrans (hereinafter "V.I. SeaTrans") to provide ferry services between St. Croix and St. Thomas and St. Thomas and St. Croix;

WHEREAS, the Act placed V.I. SeaTrans under the jurisdiction of the Public Services Commission for issues related to the adherence to the terms of the franchise including passenger schedules, passenger and commuter fees, variances from franchise terms and maintenance of the vessel, and the equipment;

WHEREAS, the Act required, inter alia, that the new franchisee V.I. SeaTrans must submit acceptance of the franchise agreement within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the Act;

WHEREAS, the Act required, *inter alia*, that the PSC within thirty (30) days after the enactment of the Act, adopt a schedule of fees and rules and regulations as it relates to the new franchise;

WHEREAS, upon consideration and deliberation, the members of the Commission adopted temporary rules and regulations for the newly created Franchisee V.I. SeaTrans based upon the existing ferry franchisees – Varlack Ventures, Inc and Transportation Services of St. John, Inc.;

WHEREAS, the Commission adopted temporary schedule of fees as was submitted and proposed by V.I. SeaTrans (see attached);

WHEREAS, the Commission modified the submitted written fee schedule, per the verbal request of V.I. SeaTrans during the meeting, to include a "Group Rate" of seventy dollars (\$70.00), and an eighty-five dollar (\$85.00) fee for the "Fourth of July" Holiday;

WHEREAS, the Commission extended the period for promulgation of permanent rules and regulations for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days from the June 11, 2007 date provided for in the Act;

WHEREAS, the Commission extended the time frame to review V.I. SeaTrans' rates and services to an additional ninety (90) days from the June 11, 2007 deadline provided for in the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners voted unanimously to take the aforementioned actions;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Motion to extend the period for promulgation of permanent rules and regulations for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days from the June 11, 2007 date provided for in the Act be **GRANTED**; further

It is hereby **ORDERED** that the Motion to adopt temporary schedule of fees as was submitted and proposed by V.I. SeaTrans (see attached) is **GRANTED**; further

It is hereby **ORDERED** that the Motion for the Commission to modify the submitted written fee schedule, per the verbal request of V.I. SeaTrans during the meeting, to include a "Group Rate" of seventy dollars (\$70.00), and an eighty-five dollar (\$85.00) fee for the "Fourth of July" Holiday is **GRANTED**; further

It is hereby **ORDERED** that the Motion to extend the period for promulgation of permanent rules and regulations for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days from the June 11, 2007 date provided for in the Act is **GRANTED**; and finally

It is hereby **ORDERED** that the Motion to extend the time frame to review V.I. SeaTrans' rates and services to an additional ninety (90) days from the June 11, 2007 deadline provided for in the Act, is **GRANTED**.

Dated: December | 2007

JOSEPH B. BOSCHULTE

R THE COMMISSION

Chair



Aquatic Management, LLC d/b/a V.I. SeaTrans rates:

Passenger Fare:

Adult (12+): \$90 round-trip \$50 one way Child (4-11): \$80 round-trip \$45 one way

Senior Citizens/ \$80 round-trip \$45 one way(must present Senior Card)
Students: \$80 round-trip \$45 one way(must present Student Card)

Toddler (1-3): \$20 round-trip \$10 one way

Infants (0-11mths) No Charge

Group Rates

25 – 30 persons \$80.00 per person 31 or more persons \$75.00 per person

School Groups: \$70.00 round-trip per person

Passengers are allowed two (2) pieces of luggage of moderate weight (40lbs or less). Any additional pieces or large/heavy pieces will be charged a minimum of \$10.00 per piece up to 40lbs in weight plus \$0.75 per each additional pound.

One-way Cargo Rates:

Mail (letters & small pkgs) \$10.00 per item

Boxes: \$15.00 (up to 40lbs + \$0.75 ea addt'l lb)

Small Pets (must be caged) \$25.00 Large Pets (must be caged) \$35.00 Small Surfboards \$25.00 Large Surfboards/Windsurfers \$35.00

Unaccompanied Children (age 6 - 14):

\$25.00 caretaker fee in addition to an adult fare ticket.

^{*}one way tickets are not discounted